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Saline county is to vote on a proposition to build a home on the county poor farm at a cost of \$25,000.

The election of Vest to the congressional district occurred at Lexington in 1861, just after the battle. Gov. "Clab" Jackson's peripatetic government was circulating around under the protection of "Pap" Price.

Under five deck headlines the metropolitan papers are telling of the war which is expected in the Oklahoma legislature over a textbook adoption law. There have been few more prolific sources of corruption than the text book legislation in the various states of the country.

There are six national tickets in the field: Democratic, Parker and Davis; republican, Roosevelt and Fairbanks; prohibitionist, Swallow and Carroll; socialist, Debs and Hanford; socialist-labor, Corregan and Cox; populist, Watson and Tibbles; negro liberty, Scott and Payne. If one does not find what he wants here, he can make a ticket of his own.

Senator Vest studied law under the father of Justice Harlan of the supreme court of the United States. Harlan gave Vest a set of the Federalist and commended it to him as the ablest commentary on the constitution. Vest became one of the greatest of Federalist scholars but instead of being converted to the Hamiltonian interpretation, as Harlan expected, he found in it only confirmation of the opposite theory.

The wreck on the Denver & Rio Grande railway near Pueblo Monday was one of the most horrible disasters of the year. All of the coaches except the two sleepers fell through the bridge and trestle into the raging waters of Dry Fork and were carried down stream four miles. The exact number of the dead is not known, but about a hundred bodies have been found. The stream where the wreck occurred is ordinarily as dry as the plains.

New York has been republican at every election since 1894, but is to be noted that Roosevelt carried the state, when he was candidate for governor, by the smallest majority of any candidate within that time. And this too was just after the Cuban war in which whatever of just popularity he has was acquired. The figures are as follows: 1894, Morton, for Governor, 156,308. 1895, Secretary of State, 90,246. 1896, McKinley for President, 268,468. 1898, Roosevelt, for Governor, 17,785. 1900, Dell for Governor, 111,126. It is believed that Parker will carry New York by 100,000.

GEORGE GRAHAM VEST.

The death of George Graham Vest has transposed a most interesting character from a large place in public life to a large place in history. The "Little Giant," as he was affectionately called by those who admired him for his prowess in debate, or the "Senator of two Republics," as he was called by those who took a larger view of his life and services, was a man to be sketched in charcoal. His portraiture is most satisfactory in bold outline. There was a largeness about the talents of this man, which, as in the case of Benton, will give him a greater place in the estimation of posterity than in the estimation of his contemporaries.

In last analysis all that is abiding about Vest's fame rests in two qualities which he possessed in unequal degrees: emotive force and courage. He was a man of much intellectuality, but not greater than that of hundreds of men who have failed to attain even local eminence. He was learned in law and in statecraft, but not more so than scores whose names will not survive the first quarter of this century. In his earlier days he was wonderfully popular on the stump because of his eloquence and his remarkable faculty for story telling. But these qualities have all been possessed by men who lacked that other something which is necessary to effect things of real importance. This other something is emotive force, in which Vest in his prime showed a spiritual kinship with Mirabeau and Charles James Fox. It was this quality that enabled him to marshal his forces and hurl them with irresistible power against a position he chose to assail. Older men will remember how he did this years ago when it was sought to deny to those who sympathized with the South participation in the public duties of citizenship and government. It will be remembered too with what superb courage and resistless power he crushed the flat greenbackers and the political element of the old grange movement in Missouri. Even the youngest readers of the public prints of the day can remember when two years ago this same power came upon him, when supported on his feet by a body servant he aroused the people of the nation and compelled an unwilling congress to strike off the protective duty on anthracite coal imposed by a subservient government in the interest of a corrupt trust.

Vest's courage, in at least one situation in his public life, has been called in question. The incorrectness of this view will be seen when it is remembered that he never was able to interest himself very seriously in any merely economic question. It was only in matters involving constitutional principles or personal rights that his interior promptings moved him powerfully. It was a matter of personal rights that stopped him on his way to California and determined him to locate in Pettis county. In the last exhibition of his great powers it was not the error of the economic theory of protection that moved him but the spectacle of a band of millionaire Pennsylvania freebooters holding up the defenseless poor who were suffering from cold. Vest was never a platform maker and never concerned himself very much about his party's platform declarations in matters which belonged to the domain of political economy. But when his party showed signs of departing from ancient landmarks by inclining toward the plan of electing senators by a direct vote of the people, he heard from Vest in no uncertain sound. He had no scruples about going against the known wishes of his constituents in a matter in which he held a contrary conviction. He understood his government to be a representative republic and not a direct democracy, and he stood upon his right as a representative.

It is a fashion of the day to give the world's applause to the constructive statesmen—an uninteresting lot who have doubtless been too much neglected in the past. But so long as men rank the Lees, Sheridans, Jacksons, Shermans and Longstreets above the Astors, Rockefellers, Vanderbilts, Goulds and Morgans they may be depended upon to write the names of the Websters, Calhouns, Ben Hills, Mat Carpenters, Lamars, Conklings, and Vests above the Morrills, Fosses, Gallatins, Dingleys and Mat Johnsons. The world still loves the warrior and Vest was an intellectual paladin.

Dr. Swallow, the prohibition candidate for the presidency says that the campaign issue is "Bunco, Boodle and Booze."

PARKER'S ADDRESS.

Judge Parker's acceptance speech is worthy of a careful perusal. There is no flippant cleverness about it, no jesting, no sprightly epigrams. It is not an argument, not a bid for votes. It has more of the character of a deliverance from the bench. There is a calmness about the spirit of it that gives to his positive utterances the appearance of long wrought out and immovable conviction. One can hardly read what he says about the Philippine question, about 'world power,' about second terms, about trusts, about the tariff, without feeling that he has spoken what is, for him at least, the last word. Nowhere in his speech is there one syllable of undignified and carping criticism. Take for instance the Colorado situation which he dwells upon in particular not for the purpose of scoring a point against the republican party, but to call the attention of the country to a general loosening of the bonds of the law.

There is something in the nature of a surprise in what Judge Parker says about re-nomination. For many years there have been those who advocate lengthening the term of the president to six years and making him ineligible for re-election. In most of the states a governor cannot serve two terms successively. But the reasons for a single term in the case of the president are more numerous and weightier than in the case of governors. There is more patronage at his disposal. There are more ways in which personal ambition may warp him from the path of duty. The whole party machinery is always brought to bear to induce a president to stand for re-nomination, and he is under severest temptation to shape his public policies to this end. President Roosevelt is an example of this. He early realized that the North and East preferred Senator Hanna to him. He therefore sought to popularize himself with the South and the West. He made sensational display of his real or pretended social equality notions to please the negroes of the South. He camped-out in Wyoming, braved mountain lions with a pocket knife in Colorado, took boxing lessons from a prize fighter and otherwise displayed a rough-and-tumble spirit. When Hanna died, Roosevelt subsided instantly. He ceased to make a show of fighting trusts, gave up all his tariff reform ideas, quit boxing lessons and tree chopping, and settled down to play conservative. He now out Hanna as a conservative. He has not done anything to make him talked about for months. He has made his peace with Hanna's friends. But the last performance of this lightning-change artist only increases the impression of his dangerousness and adds weight to Judge Parker's theory of a single term of service. Read Judge Parker's speech carefully and thoughtfully.

WHAT THE MATTER IS.

Says the Sedalia Democrat: "That the howl against the state board of equalization is unjust and founded in malice, is proven by the fact that corporate property is assessed in Missouri 48 per cent higher than in Illinois and 60 per cent higher than in Kansas, while the St. Louis street railroads are assessed by the state board 200 per cent higher than they were assessed by the last republican city assessor. The assessment of all property at its actual cash value is a beautiful theory, but it is not done anywhere."

What is the matter with the Post-Dispatch is that a few years ago when it was assailing the board of equalization for not increasing the valuation of railroads more than it did, Mr. Cook issued a letter calling attention to the facts recited above and to the additional fact that the railroads were assessed higher than most other corporations. He took the Post-Dispatch for an example. Capitalized at \$1,000,000 and its stock selling above par, the Post-Dispatch was rated to the St. Louis assessor at that time at \$25,000. It has since been raised to \$32,000. If it were taxed at the same relative valuation as the railroads of the state it would have to pay on \$350,000. At least such were Mr. Cook's figures in the letter referred to. The Post-Dispatch has not liked Mr. Cook since, which is very much to Mr. Cook's credit.

Exceedingly little interest has been manifested in national politics this year on the part of either the democrats or the republicans. There has not been a ratification meeting in any state in the union. It is too early for the active campaign to begin, but there is noticeably small interest even for this time of the year.

THE SANTA FE WITHDRAWAL.

The withdrawal of the Santa Fe from Lexington is a serious matter—how serious we will begin to discover in the course of a month or two. It leaves Lexington perhaps the largest non-competitive point in the state, if not in population at least in volume of shipping. It has been said and is probably true that Lexington, counting the coal business, is the best shipping point on the Missouri Pacific between Kansas City and St. Louis, though Sedalia has five times as many inhabitants and Jefferson City twice as many. Yet our railroad facilities are inferior to those of Bates City. The people of the county could more conveniently attend to public business in Bates City than in the county seat. If the Wells Fargo Express Company should withdraw its office from here it is extremely probable that it would no longer pay to run the ferry.

The situation demands serious and determined action on the part of the people. If it is necessary or if the people think it necessary, all other public enterprises should be subordinated to the bridge and trolley enterprise. With that assured, public confidence in investments and improvements would be strengthened and justified beyond a peradventure. Business would receive an impetus and property values an increase far greater than that caused by the revival of the coal industry here. And it would be permanent.

The Kansas City Star of last Sunday devotes half a page to the subject of macadam roads in Jackson county. It notes with evident surprise that some of these roads have developed ruts, in many instances extending far down below the macadam. There is a very erroneous notion abroad that rock roads are indestructible. On the contrary they wear very rapidly, and it is necessary to repair them constantly to keep them in anything like good condition. A new macadam road properly built will keep in good condition for two or three years without any attention at all. After that it must be continually repaired. It has been found to be the part of economy to have these repairs going on all the time, winter and summer. With the materials deposited at convenient intervals along the roadside, one man can keep up a good many miles of road, more or less according to the grade. The economy of macadam roads does not consist in the supposed fact that they "never have to be built but once," but in the fact that heavier loads may be hauled, faster time made, and less interference from the weather experienced. If Jackson county proposes to let its roads alone until they have to be rebuilt they will prove very expensive roads, indeed.

Uncle Russell Sage's birthday comes at a season of the year when nothing else is going on, and every newspaper in the land takes notice of it. But Uncle Russell doesn't. He goes about his work as usual, and cannot remember without figuring it up whether he is eighty-eight or eighty-nine. Every year about this time in every newspaper in the land Uncle Russell is made to 'point a moral'—he could hardly be made to 'adorn a tale.' Invariably he is held up as a revolting example. A disolute and abandoned Ernest Dowson can command the genius of a Symonds in his defense all for the slender virtue of bonhomie and because of an attenuated vein of poetic genius. But Uncle Russell's great virtue of thrift—a virtue which lies as the foundation of all real worth in person, race, or nation, cannot save him from an annual garroting at the hands of the press, just because he lacks the questionable virtue of good fellowship. If Uncle Russell would take a day off with the boys now and then, join the Hooboes and play King William at merry-go-rounds he would be accounted the best of fellows. Hundreds of men have proven this both before and after going to the penitentiary.

The Cincinnati Inquirer says: "The expenses of the government have been steadily growing at an enormous rate. The congressional appropriations during the first administration of Mr. Cleveland amounted to \$868,037,675. During the Harrison administration they were \$1,217,331,537. In the second Cleveland administration they were built up to \$1,309,478,606. Then came the McKinley administration with \$1,066,131,611. The Roosevelt administration has leaped lightly over the two billion mark, and produces the record of \$2,440,228,545." A part of the increased expense of government is natural, and is due to the growth of the country and the enlargement of the interests in the government's care. But it is impossible to deny that a growing spirit of extravagance is to be noted.

Only One More Week

We have closed out thousands of yards of very choice goods during last week. We still have many extra nice things left which we will offer until next Saturday night the 6th of August at the same low prices. We add to the list for this weeks selling;

- 50 Ladies Cersets worth \$1.00 for.....25c
- 25 Boys white linen bosom, open back, shirts, sizes 13, 13½, and 14, worth 50 cents, for each.....15c
- 25 pairs Mens bleached drilling drawers, elastic ankles.....35c

All these goods are well worth your attention and you have only one week to investigate as the sale will close positively next Saturday, August 6th.

"A Word to the Wise."

W. G. McCAUSLAND.

MANHATTAN SHIRTS

Clearance sale this week of all our

\$1.50 MANHATTAN SHIRTS \$1.15 for only.....

It will surely pay you to lay in your winter supply. All medium and light weight men and young men's suits at first cost. About 60 children's suits, broken lots at less than manufacturer's price.....

H. SINAUER

Grand Opera House

ONE NIGHT ONLY THURSDAY AUG. 18th

THE REAL SHOW

WARD'S MINSTRELS

40-WHITE STARS-40

Everything new and up-to-now. Seats now Selling at Crenshaw and Young's. GRAND FREE STREET PARADE AT 4 P. M.

Prices 25c, 35c, 50c and 75c.

\$45.00

California and Return

The 20th Triennial Conclave, Knights Templar U. S. A., and Sovereign Grand Lodge I. O. O. F., at San Francisco in September, are the next occasions for which the Santa Fe will make reduced rates to California. Any one, whether member or not, may take advantage of the reduction. If you're going to make the California tour, this is your chance to do it economically, comfortably, and thoroughly. On sale August 15 to September 10, inclusive. Limited to October 23. For full particulars address the undersigned.

G. W. HAGENBUCH, GENERAL AGENT,
The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe, Ry.
905 Main Street.
Kansas City, Mo.

Mr. Bryan's announcement that he proposes to organize the "radical and progressive elements" of the democracy for the campaign of 1908 has been followed by two suggestions in the line of his plans: that of government ownership of railroads and that of postmasters selected by popular vote. It is not at all likely that the latter suggestion will ever be put to trial, but it is certainly true that it would be a step in the direction of anti-machine politics and that it would cure much of the complaint that goes to preserve the Solid South.